GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3035
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016
Revision of ESIC Norms
Gutha Shri Sukender Reddy

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government has revised/proposes to revise the norms of ESIC to give liberty to employee to choose Insurance Plans other than ESIC;
(b)if so, the details thereof;
(c)whether the employees unions are opposing the said move of the Government;
(d)if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
(e)the steps taken/being taken by the Government to re-solve the issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE(IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) & (b): In the Budget Proposal for 2015-16, the Hon'ble Finance Minister had proposed that the employees should have the option of choosing either Employees State Insurance (ESI) or a Health Insurance product, recognized by the Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA).
(c) to (e): With a view to incorporate enabling provisions in the Employees' State Insurance Act,1948, a tripartite consultations meeting with representatives of labour unions, employer representatives, representatives of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments was held on 12.08.2015 wherein some employees unions expressed reservation on the proposal. To address their reservations, another meeting with employees' unions was held on 6.10.2015 and their queries/ doubts were explained and clarified.

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